

PHYLLIS STADTLANDER—WAUKEE, IA

Please use my tax dollars to preserve the National Guard. It is a safety net for the safety for my family. Thank you very much for your work on our behalf.

MIKE VANDELUNE—URBANDALE, IA

The military needs to be treated as a business. You have a workforce (active duty) for your basic manufacturing or business needs. Then when you have a unexpected need, you bring on the part-time (National Guard) workforce. The last thing you want is to not have what you need for a workforce when there is an emergency.

JIM MAYLAND—BUFFALO CENTER, IA

I am commander of the local VFW Post. I have seen some waste in the military and I think that is where the cuts should come not in reducing the National Guard.

ROSS KUPER—OSAGE, IA

Do not make cuts to the military in any way shape. They need to have the best care provided to the service person and their families. We need the best military in the world.

RANDY MARTIN—ROCKWELL CITY, IA

I do not want to see the country go back to the era where our military was cut so low that we were open to terrorist attacks. Remind them of 911.

ANNA FREMONT—CEDAR FALLS, IA

Besides we all know we will need the guard in active duty when all this snow melts and we are flooded again. Then what?

DIANE SIEBEL—CEDAR FALLS, IA

Absolutely not!

KATHY DOYLE—CEDAR FALLS, IA

My husband is active duty National Guard/Army. He would lose his position and now he's currently at the Arizona border patrol as a pilot. If we lose that we lose our careers our income and insurance and that would mean that the unemployment rate will go sky high. I am totally against this and not happy about it either.

RALPH PRUNTY—CEDAR FALLS, IA

Redefine and reduce the scope of the NSC and Keep the National Guard.

CARL MEYER—CEDAR FALLS, IA

The National Guard is not only capable of being deployed to places like Afghanistan but also is used for all kinds of national disasters. The Guard numbers are right where we need them.

ROBERT YUSKA—HUDSON, IA

They protect our state in disasters as well as protecting our nation in emergencies.

DEBRA NOESEN—INDEPENDENCE, IA

I'm sick & tired of hearing about cuts to our military when the cuts should be made in our Congress & Senate, that's where the waste is. By the time Congress gets done with this, we will have no security in this country. I served in the US Women's Army Corp and am still extremely proud of my service but I'm fed up with the way the military and veterans are treated in this country.

DAN CALLAHAN—INDEPENDENCE, IA

Our aviation assets are better than the Army's. Our soldiers bring a wealth of experience from their civilian jobs that make our units far more flexible than active units. Paying so much for weapons systems that don't work and being unable to retain and train our soldiers is silly. Active duty generals and lobbyists are frightened by how effective our Guard units are at a much lower cost than a similar active unit. They worry about protecting their jobs, not the effectiveness of the fighting force.

TED LANSKE—WAVERLY, IA

The last time we had troop cuts this low was right after WWII and for the same rea-

son. Guess what, Korean conflict came along. We are about to make the same stupid political mistake and history will repeat itself. Drones cannot fight hill to hill, valley to valley, nor door to door.

KATHLEEN SCHUHMACHER—WAVERLY, IA

We are weakening our defense system in the United States. Please do what you can to maintain (at least) what we already have in place.

JOSEPH SEITZ—WATERLOO, IA

As you say, they could make cuts to military weapon development and to cut waste. It's nice that the Secretary of Defense wants to make cuts but maybe the cuts need to be toward that first before reducing our National Guard.

CHIP WOOD—WATERLOO, IA

Much more savings achieved cutting regular forces.

ANGIE GILBERT—WATERLOO, IA

My husband is in the Iowa National Guard and was deployed to Afghanistan in 2010. He works very hard to do a great job at any task he is appointed to and is always ready to do whatever he is asked to serve our state and our country. These men and women do a great service and deserve great respect. I believe budget cuts could be made elsewhere.

BRENDA DOUGLASS—WATERLOO, IA

My son is a member of the Iowa National Guard. He takes his job as an Army National Guard soldier very seriously and has great pride in being ready to serve his country when needed.

NANCY STIRM—WATERLOO, IA

Our National Guard does so much more than protect our country. Let's keep them available to all needs of the state and country.

CINDY BENGSTON—WATERLOO, IA

Thank you Rep. Braley!

SANDIE DEAHL—WATERLOO, IA

I believe funding within the Iowa National Guard should be redistributed. Outdated or mostly vacant posts should be closed or sold. Funding previously spent on maintenance should be used for recruitment/training of recruits. Please give Tim Orr a call, he represents the National Guard well and has quite a few good ideas about future direction(s) of the guard.

TIONA JOHNSTON—WATERLOO, IA

I do not believe that we should cut any of our military. My oldest son is in the Reserves. I also believe that someone should be FIGHTING for our Veterans' rights.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ST. PAUL, ST. CLARE CRUSADERS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the St. Paul, St. Clare Crusaders 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Team, who ended a great season Friday, March 28, 2014. For the seventh year in a row, the Crusaders went undefeated as champions of the Luzerne, Lackawanna League and went on to compete in the Pennsylvania CYO Championship at Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia, where they faced the best teams that the state's eight Dioceses had to offer. Under the leadership of Mike Brown, and assistant coaches

John Murray, Patrick Sweeney, and Jamie Dempsey, the team of 20 ranked 6th in the entire state with an overall 36-2 record.

It is with great pride that I honor the team and the coaching staff of St. Paul, St. Clare. The sportsmanship, athleticism, and teamwork that these young people displayed on the court brought their community together. I congratulate the Crusaders on their hard work and success, and I thank them for inspiring us all.

COMMEMORATING PATRICIA "PATTY" LYONS

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Patricia "Patty" Lyons. Patty passed away on March 26, 2014 after a long courageous and hard fought battle with cancer.

Patty was a dedicated nurse in Bucks County for 35 years. It has been said of nurses, that with each patient and family they work with over the years, they give a little piece of themselves and each of those threads, make up the beautiful tapestry that is the career of nursing. Patty's career and life was indeed a beautiful tapestry. She dedicated her life to improving the care of older Americans particularly those in home care and hospice. She established and operated Bucks County Special Care for 28 years. Patty worked tirelessly advocating for legislation requiring non-medical home cares to be licensed and direct care workers to pass criminal background checks, which ultimately became law.

Patty was very generous with her time and dedicated hours of service to numerous boards, community organizations and commissions including the Long Term Care Advisory Panel serving the 8th Congressional District. I had the honor and pleasure of knowing Patty. She left a lasting impression on those she touched and she will be dearly missed and fondly remembered.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM N. PHILLIPS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant General William N. Phillips, United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and selfless service to our nation as the Military Deputy Director to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. Lieutenant General Phillips will retire after 38 dedicated years and exceptional service to this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, let me be the first to say that there is no mission too great for this incredible individual. Bill's tremendous vision, leadership, and dedication to excellence has ensured our beloved Soldiers fighting on behalf of the Nation have always had and will continue to have well into the future, the most technologically advanced and reliable equipment whenever